

Internship Testimonials

"Desire to become a Public Defender"

"Being an intern at the Northern Virginia Capital Defender Office has affirmed my desire to become a public defender after I graduate from law school. My assignments are always changing. One day I may be reviewing documents, audio tapes, or photographs that we have received; another day I may be researching a point of criminal law, criminal procedure, or evidence; and still another day I may be observing the case that I have been working on in court."

"I particularly enjoy the research assignments. They allow me to build on the general principles I have learned in my classes, then research to find out how Virginia--and sometimes other jurisdictions, like the 4th Circuit--have interpreted and applied those principles. It's great to find out that I really find this work interesting and engaging, because it's what I want to spend my career doing! I also know that this is the research that the attorneys in the office would be doing if it were not assigned to me. I enjoy the responsibility, and I feel proud to help the office in whatever way that I can. I also feel confident that this internship is developing the critical thinking and research skills that I will use in my career after graduation."

- Megan Johnson, Northern Virginia Capital Defender Office Intern